



Sunday, April 5, 2020
First Parish Church of Stow & Acton
Order of Service

INSERT

APRIL PLATE SHARING

RIA House

So what and who is RIA House? We started in 2013 as a group of women wanting to support other women who have been trafficked, victimized, bought and SOLD for the gratification of another - mostly men. The key word here is "SOLD." Yes, "SOLD." Here we are in 2020 and still need to admit that a woman can be "SOLD." I believe this may be called Modern Day Slavery.

In the year 2019, RIA House has supported over 200 women by offering them clinical care, peer mentor ship as well as support groups in the MetroWest Prison for Women.

ALL these women have been traumatized and most suffer PTSD as well as drug and alcohol addiction. Some have had their identity stolen along with their cell phone, license and credit cards.

RIA House walks and stands with women who are trying to be a better citizen and give back. We ask that you stand with us as we continue to support these women.

NO Adult Choir Rehearsal

VIRTUAL Coffee Hour

Hallelujah: The Bible & Handel's Messiah

7:00 PM

Hosted by Lisa Fagerstrom

Email: lfager@aol.com

News About Our Religious Education Program

There is a family worship packet being sent out to all families on Friday, April 3rd. This week the packet focuses on animals in our lives.

In addition we will offer a zoom RE session each Monday at 11 am. This session will be geared for children in grades K-5. The zoom link will be sent out each week.

Our 6-8th graders are invited to join Paul Spanagel, our youth coordinator, for a zoom gathering each Sunday from 6:30-7. The link will be sent out soon.

Our High School Discussion Group meets this Sunday at 11:15
(please note time change) to 12:15. The link will be shared this week.

If you need to connect with Michelle Cote, our Director of Religious Education, her email is dre@fpc-stow-acton.org. Paul Spanagel, our youth coordinator can be reached at youth@fpc-stow-acton.org

THE WEEK at Church APRIL 6~11 2020

Tuesday Asylum 7:00pm, ZOOM
Tuesday Book Group 7:00pm, ZOOM
Tuesday RE Meeting 7:00pm, ZOOM

Wednesday Meditation 7:30pm ZOOM

Thursday Staff Meeting 9:30am ZOOM
Thursday SGM 9:30am ZOOM
Thursday Peace Vigil 5-6pm outside in front of church
Thursday MAUNDAY THURSDAY VESPERS **7PM** ZOOM

Friday SGM 9:30am ZOOM

Saturday SGM 9:00am ZOOM

Sunday, April 12th, 2020 "EASTER: SURPRISED BY JOY"
10 AM ONLY



Sanctuary closed. Virtual Service by Zoom or at 107.7 FM in the FPC parking lot.

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

The Easter morning of myth was a time of hardship and sorrow, when suddenly those who gathered at the tomb to mourn were surprised by joy. This service will draw parallels with the hardships of today and how we can find surprising moments of joy. The order of service will be posted here for download by the Friday evening before the service.

Zoom online video: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/754049953>

Join by phone: 646-876-9923 Meeting ID: 754 049 953

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE THURSDAY, APRIL 16



Annual Reports are due by Thursday April 16 this year.

Email your report to me at katy@brightleafenergy.com, with the words: "FPC Annual Report [Title of your report]" in the subject line of your email.

- Who does this? Committee Chairs, certain staff and Officers
- What is it? A report of what your committee did over the past year. Many reports are about one page long, but if your group did a lot of work, we'd be more than happy to read about it!
- How to send it? Write the report in a Word (or other text-style) document and attach the file to your email. Again, send the report to katy@brightleafenergy.com with the report title in the subject line.

Thank you, Katy Weeks for the Board of Trustees

MEMORY GARDEN

Dear FPC Community,

Below you will find a link to a brief survey to determine the extent of our congregation's interest in creating a Memory Garden or Wall here at FPC. Since last fall a committee has been researching what would be involved and presented this information last Sunday between services. That information is also included for you below as an attachment.

Background

The idea of such a garden or wall is to have a sacred place where ashes of our congregants can be scattered or planted (or even placed in a Columbarium—a place where ashes can be sealed and stored), or even just a spot where some simple memorial might be placed. Many Unitarian-Universalist and other denominational churches have such gardens or walls. They can be as simple as having one's ashes scattered in a garden plot and a brick with the names and dates of the person placed either on a brick along a path wall or on a plaque on a wall or even in a Columbarium.

Our research to date suggests that there would be no need for a capital campaign. Instead, interested persons could reserve a brick or plaque and these funds could be used to move the project forward.

Slide Presentation Link

fpc-stow-acton.org/document/fpc-memorial-garden

Survey

Link [doc.google.com/forms/d/1YKWtDefC8etHhskGnLO7iBx414CFE0k28h3UoOL7UIs](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1YKWtDefC8etHhskGnLO7iBx414CFE0k28h3UoOL7UIs)

In Community, Iene H. Rudman, for the Memorial Garden Committee

We Need Your Help with FPC's Summer Services



Is there something that you're particularly passionate about? Something that you think your fellow FPC members and friends would really like to learn more about at one of our summer services? Would you be interested in leading such a service? If so, the Worship Committee wants to hear from you. We have just started planning our services this summer and have settled upon the theme of Passion. If you have an idea for a summer service that focuses on something you feel strongly about and you think deserves a wider audience, please let us know. Also, is there someone in our congregation who you think has just such an idea that you believe we would all benefit from hearing? If so, we are inviting you to nominate that person, especially if you think they may be hesitant to come forward themselves.

The Worship Committee is available to help shape any of these services, so please contact one of us if you have an idea, you would like to suggest someone, or you would just like more information:

Neil Saunders, Chair (neilsaund@verizon.net)

Lisa Martino (griffmomma@gmail.com)

Kevin O'Brien (kjobrien2@verizon.net)

Rick Gentilman (rgentilman1@aol.com)

Aimee Ledwell (redshoegirl@gmail.com)

Meg Costello (margaretmcostello@gmail.com)

Trish Guditz (guditz@verizon.net)

Rev. Cindy Landrum (minister@fpc-stow-acton.org)

The Worship Committee needs your help to provide a meaningful program for this year's summer services, and we thank you, in advance, for your consideration and support. We can't do it without you!



The 2020 FPC unction – The Roaring Twenties Reset your calendar
In the 1920s' spirit of optimism, the Spring Auction is rescheduled for May 16!

The spring auction remains the biggest church fundraiser of the year. In keeping with the latest recommendations to social distance, we have moved the auction to May 16th. Let's hope that we can all gather together at that time for a fun night at FPC! In the meantime, we will continue our planning!

Donors: We will continue to accept donations through April 5th. How about using some of this down time to come up with some auction donations ideas? No matter when we hold the auction, and whether in-person or on-line, we will still need lots of donations. You can sign up at the FPC Auction Site - <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/article/fpc-auction-2020-roaring-twenties>. Need an idea?

Contact the auction committee!

Food and Volunteers: For the time being, we are not asking for food donations and volunteers.

As the date draws nearer and we have a better idea of how this event will unfold, we will put out a new call for help in these areas.